

REMARKS

These remarks are responsive to the Office Action of December 8, 2006 and the Advisory Action of February 14, 2007. Claims 37-43 and 45 are pending in this application. Claim 37 has been amended. Reconsideration and allowance of the instant application are respectfully requested. Each of the Examiner's rejections is addressed below.

Section 103

Claims 37-43 and 45-46 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 3,196,299 to Kott ("Kott") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,553,604 to Braun ("Braun"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The combination of Kott and Braun fails to disclose or make obvious a toothbrush having a plurality of channels, with each of the channels extending transversely and substantially completely across a surface of a cleaning head from which the cleaning/treating elements extend and separating a support structure from one of an adjacent support structure, a free end of the cleaning head, or the first end of the cleaning head, as required by independent claim 37.

Neither Kott nor Braun has the required channels extending transversely and substantially completely across a cleaning head. The surface of the head of Kott from which its cleaning/treating elements extend is completely planar. In Braun, each of apertures 25 merely surround the base of elements 16. They clearly do not each extend substantially completely across the surface of head 12.

Accordingly, the rejection is improper and should be withdrawn.

Conclusion

Pending claims 37-43, 45, and 46 are believed to be in form for allowance, and an indication to that effect is respectfully requested at this time. If any fees are required or

if an overpayment is made, the Commissioner is authorized to debit or credit our Deposit Account No. 03-2455.

Respectfully submitted,
Eduardo Jimenez et al.

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/Gregory J. Cohan/
By: Gregory J. Cohan
Reg. No.: 40,959
For Ellen K. Park
COLGATE-PALMOLIVE COMPANY
909 River Road; P.O. Box 1343
Piscataway, NJ 08855-1343
Telephone (732) 878-7157